

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/813,042

Examiner

Khanh Tran

Applicant(s)

WANG, LI T.

Art Unit

2631

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed on 02/01/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-9 and 11-25, which have been renumbered as set forth in the Office action.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

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1. The Amendment filed on 02/01/2006 has been entered. Claims 1-2, 4-9 and 11-25 are pending in this Office action.

2. Claims have been renumbered as shown below, respectively:

claims 4-7 renumbered as claims 3-6;

claims 8-9 renumbered as claims 7-8;

claims 11-14 renumbered as claims 9-12;

claims 15-18 renumbered as claims 13-16;

claims 19-21 renumbered as claims 17-19;

claims 22-25 renumbered as claims 20-23.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, see pages 9-11, filed on 02/01/2006, with respect to claims 1, 7-8, 13-15 and 17-18 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1, 7-8, 13-15 and 17-18 has been withdrawn.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

4. Regarding claim 1, claim is allowable over prior art of record because the cited reference (Cao et al. US Patent 5,864,584) taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose a method for tri-state signal communication, the method comprising uniquely distinct features "wherein releasing the data line to a second voltage state comprises placing an output of an amplifier coupled to the data line into an open drain state".

5. Regarding claim 8, claim is allowable over prior art of record because the cited reference (Cao et al. US Patent 5,864,584) taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose a tri-state transmitter comprising uniquely distinct features "wherein the first amplifier establishes an open drain state on its output to release the data line to the second voltage state".

6. Regarding claim 15, claim is allowable over prior art of record because the cited reference (Cao et al. US Patent 5,864,584) taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose an apparatus for tri-state signal communication, the apparatus comprising uniquely distinct features "wherein means for releasing the data line to the second voltage state comprising means for placing an output of an amplifier coupled to the data line into an open drain state".

7. Regarding claim 19, claim is allowable over prior art of record because the cited reference (Cao et al. US Patent 5,864,584) taken individually or in combination

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fails to particularly disclose a communication server comprising all elements as set forth in the application claim.

8. Regarding claim 22, claim is allowable over prior art of record because the cited reference (Cao et al. US Patent 5,864,584) taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose a method for tri-state signal communication, the method comprising uniquely distinct features "driving a data line to a first voltage state if the first data signal is a logic zero, wherein the data line is coupled to a first voltage level using a pull-up resistor, and driving a data line to a first voltage state comprises pulling voltage of the data line from the first voltage level towards a zero voltage level".

9. Regarding claim 23, claim is allowable over prior art of record because the cited reference (Cao et al. US Patent 5,864,584) taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose a method for tri-state signal communication, the method comprising uniquely distinct features "wherein driving the released data line to the third voltage state comprises: placing an output of a first amplifier coupled to the data line into an open drain state, and driving a second amplifier coupled to the data line".

10. Regarding claim 24, claim is allowable over prior art of record because the cited reference (Cao et al. US Patent 5,864,584) taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose a tri-state transmitter comprising uniquely distinct features "a pull-up resistor coupling the data line to a first voltage level, wherein the first amplifier

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drives the data line to the first voltage state by pulling voltage of the data line from the first voltage level towards a zero voltage level".

11. Regarding claim 25, claim is allowable over prior art of record because the cited reference (Cao et al. US Patent 5,864,584) taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose a tri-state transmitter comprising uniquely distinct features "the first amplifier further operable to release the data line to a second voltage state if the first data signal is a logic one, wherein the first amplifier establishes an open drain state to release the data line so that the second amplifier can drive the data line to the third voltage state".

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-3007. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 08:00 AM - 05:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mohammad Ghayour can be reached on 571-272-3021. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KCT

Phanhcong Tran

02/17/2006

Examiner KHANH TRAN